



UTM’s award-winning college newspaper

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UTM kicks off Relay for Life campaign

Morgan Goddard

Guest Writer

UTM will hold this year’s Relay for Life event at the Elam Center on April 17 at 6 p.m.

While the final Relay for Life event does not happen until the end of the semester, the kick-off event was held Monday, Jan. 26.

During the event, people gathered to hear about this year’s Relay for Life, win door prizes and discover this year’s Relay for Life theme. There were also tables open for team signups.

In between speeches from the executive board, Kim Coombs, a freshman psychology major, sang a beautiful song she wrote about a family member who lost her battle with cancer.

In addition, the Relay for Life award, given to the highest individual fundraiser, was awarded to Alan Friend for raising \$945. This year, the award was named for Bethany Scott, who lost her battle to cancer in late 2013.

It was revealed Monday night at the kick-off event that this year’s Relay for Life theme is “Tune Out Cancer.” After the reveal of the theme, team captains representing student organizations and groups picked their music-centered individual theme. These will be the themes for their organization’s booth at the event. At the event, these booths will sell items and food for donation, and there will be games and entertainment.

“Our theme is ‘Tune Out Cancer,’ so it’s mostly about using music to fight back. Every year our goal is to fight back against cancer and attempt to find a cure so that



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we can get rid of cancer,” said Allie Clayton, executive director of the UTM Relay for Life executive board, about this year’s theme.

The teams who attended the event had first pick on their individual team themes. Any music genre, song or artist is up for grabs as a theme for the individual themes. Teams are urged to keep it appropriate and fun.

“The more fun you have with the theme, the more fun

we’ll all have at Relay,” said Clayton.

Last year’s theme, “Hollywood,” was a hit. UTM had 41 registered Relay teams and six registered survivors. UTM Relay for Life raised over \$24,500 in 2014. The Leaders in Residence team raised \$2,357.71, making them the number one fundraising team of 2013-2014.

At the kickoff, the executive board announced that UTM received the Top 10 Per Capita Award for Events in the Mid-South Division. This year, the Relay for Life executive board hope to beat that. This year, the goal was increased to \$30,000. The executive board also hopes to have 51 teams registered and participating, as well as 20 survivors registered.

“I hope to accomplish our goal. I also hope to spread the message of the American Cancer Society and Relay for Life. This cause does more than raise money for research, we help local survivors and even share funds with St. Jude,” said Clayton.

It is still early in the game for Relay for Life, and students are encouraged to join the fight against cancer by joining a team already created, or to create their own team. Students can join a team or create a team by going to www.relayforlife.org/utm.

UTM Relay for Life also posts updates to the Relay for Life program on their social media page. Students can find them on Facebook at UTM Relay for Life, on Twitter at @utm_relay and on Instagram @2utmrelayforlife. All posts about the event can be tagged with the hashtag #SoarAboveCancer.

“We would like to have as many different organizations as possible start a team and unite the campus in the fight against cancer,” said Clayton.

French terror attack reroutes travel-study program

Emily Stewart

Assistant News Editor

UTM’s travel study program has rerouted their scheduled upcoming trip to London and Paris due to the recent terror attacks in France.

The trip has now been rerouted to include a visit to Ireland in lieu of the scheduled visit to France.

The change comes after an attack on the offices of French satire magazine Charlie Hebdo left 12 dead and shocked French citizens. French officials said that the attack was conducted by a terrorist sleeper cell, and that extensive security measures have been put into effect.

“All necessary measures will also be taken to ensure the safety of people who attend a massive unity rally planned in Paris on Sunday,” said Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, as reported by CNN. “Extra steps will also be taken to protect religious institutions.”



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These security measures include parking and transit restrictions, increased sniper presence, and the increase of plainclothes and anti-terror officers, some of whom were active during the rally Sunday, Jan. 11, 2015.

Although much of the furor

surrounding the attacks has subsided, security measures are still heightened, and tensions are still prevalent. According to UT Martin’s Academic Affairs Policy, “The University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) does not recommend travel to destinations with an active

Travel Warning issued by the U.S. Department of State or a Travel Health Warning issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).”

“These are UTM students, any of whom are not experienced travelers, and there are some tensions in the atmosphere, and

it is better not to put them into those situations,” Executive Director of the College of Business and Global Affairs Dr. Malcolm Koch said. “Although the level of risk is minimal, it is certainly greater than it was two months ago.”

The BBC reported that Prime Minister Manuel Valls had announced the creation of 2,680 new security-related jobs, including 1,100 in police intelligence, over three years. In addition, 7,500 defense jobs due to be cut will now be saved. France had been planning to cut 25,800 defense posts over five years.

Despite the increased security, the Travel Study department has decided to refrain from its scheduled trip to the country. The trip will instead feature a visit to Ireland.

“There’s no reason not to have an abundance of caution and to be super conservative,” said Dr. Koch. “The risk is minimal, but it’s just not worth taking the risk.”



Viewpoints

EDITORIAL

Super Bowl XLIX Kicks off this Sunday

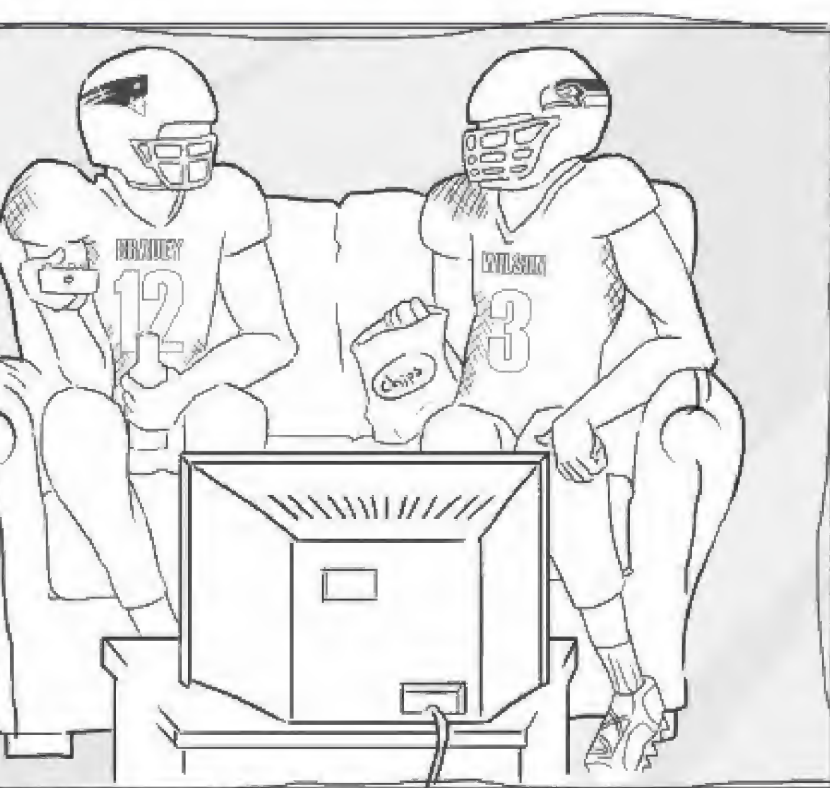
This coming Sunday an estimated 200 million Americans will be watching what has been part of our culture for 49 years. The Super Bowl.

Super Bowl XLIX will be held in Arizona, at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, between the New England Patriots and the Seattle Seahawks. NFL.com has named this year's Super Bowl, "The Desert Duel."

The Super Bowl is also one of the most well known events in American culture. Countless people host Super Bowl parties, buy all kinds of fan memorabilia, tons of food and get their game day gear ready for this classic American ritual. We [Americans] get excited for this real-life clash of the titans event, even if we do not have a team that we highly favor or not. There is more that is incorporated into the Super Bowl than just a high-stakes game of winner takes all.

Commercials and ads gain tons of interest for the Super Bowl. The commercials are a prime reason why many Americans tune into the game. With commercial segments starting around \$4.5 million (said Forbes.com), this year's commercials should be pretty sensational.

Anheuser-Busch has pumped plenty of money into advertisements in order to reach their audiences this year. The Clydesdales and dalmation puppies will most likely be seen again this year, as well as Budlight having their #UpForWhatever



"I just watch it for the commercials"

Graphic Credit / Nathaniel West

campaign. The introduction for #UpForWhatever has already started airing and showing teasers for Super Bowl XLIX. The airing of their last commercial showed the date for Super Bowl within the last few seconds of the ad, showing 2/2/2015.

Cheerios has started a new trend this year by getting away from the idea of the clumsy father, and showing Fathers in a heroic way. #HowToDad is Cheerios' new way to proactively support the stay-at-home dad. With at least half of the Super Bowl audience being males and many of the female viewers having active husbands, Cheerios is said to support dads all over the U.S. in one of their commercial segments.

Viewers can also expect to

see more comedic segments from Doritos and viewers will be able to choose which commercial they want the world to see during the big game. Doritos has started their #CrashTheSuperBowl campaign, which is where consumers may access their website and vote on 10 different user-submitted ads.

Judging from Coca-Cola's 30-second segment from last year's Super Bowl, we should see another message from Coke calling for and embracing diversity (said Huffingtonpost.com). Last year's message of Coke having "America the Beautiful" being sung by people of many different ethnicities, sent many Americans a message to embrace our differences and that no matter where you're

from, happiness can be shared.

For those who will not be around a television or device with cable access, NBC.com will be live streaming the game. Anyone wanting to watch Super Bowl XLIX will be able to stream the game to their laptops or smart TV. NBC will, however, only allow viewers 11 hours of playing time on Super Bowl Sunday. Viewers will not be able to stream from NBC onto their smart phones or tablet devices, unless a Verizon wireless customer. This is due to Verizon (VZ, Tech 30) buying out all mobile streaming rights.

During the Super Bowl there are also some individuals that could care less about the game or the ads. They participate in Super Bowl festivities for the food. If you're going to entertain, be sure to plan ahead and prepare the food ahead of time. Get your grocery list, know what you're planning to make and prepare it for cooking the night before game day. This eliminates being stuck cooking the whole day or missing the game.

There are many reasons why we, as Americans, love getting ready for the Super Bowl. Regardless of what those reasons may be, here at The Pacer we wish all of UT Martin a safe and happy Super Bowl XLIX. May the best contender win!

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THE PACER
314 Gooch Hall
Martin, TN 38238
Newsroom: 731.881.7780
Fax: 731.881.7791
Email: thepacer@ut.utm.edu
Website: www.thepacer.net

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COMICS



By: L. A. Bonté



For more comics and animations visit FilbertCartoons.com

Viewpoints

COLUMNS

Comfortable pants are questionable classwear

Brooklyn Burress

Guest Writer

In today's society, many things are considered to be the "new" norm. It's normal to have divorced parents, it's normal for individuals to have a child without being married, but is it normal to wear leggings as pants.

My question is why not? Leggings are comfortable, and with the right outfit choice you can dress them up or down. My friends and I normally tend to dress them down with an oversized t-shirt. However, leggings worn with the right tunic and heels can be sure to get you a date and make the guys heads turn.

UTM Junior, Stokely Price says, "I must admit leggings are a distraction."

This has some of the UT Martin professors concerned



that the administration may need to put a dress code in place to keep other students particularly male students

from being distracted. This has caused a debate between many students.

College is suppose to prepare

you for the workplace, right? So, should UT Martin students be required to dress professionally to class? My opinion is, no.

However, I do think it is always best to look presentable because you never know who you will meet or impress.

I think that with the right outfit choice, women could get away with wearing leggings in the workplace or to class. It's important to remember to wear a tunic, dress, or t-shirt that is long enough to cover your butt no matter where you are going.

UTM Senior Reid Rickett says, "Girls that wear leggings, but don't wear something long enough to cover their butts look trashy."

College has taught me to keep it classy and not trashy. With this being said, leggings can be worn as pants if you have the proper attire. Ladies just make sure you wear something long enough to cover your buttocks and you will forever look fabulous.

COLUMNS

Yik Yak has negative effect on UTM campus

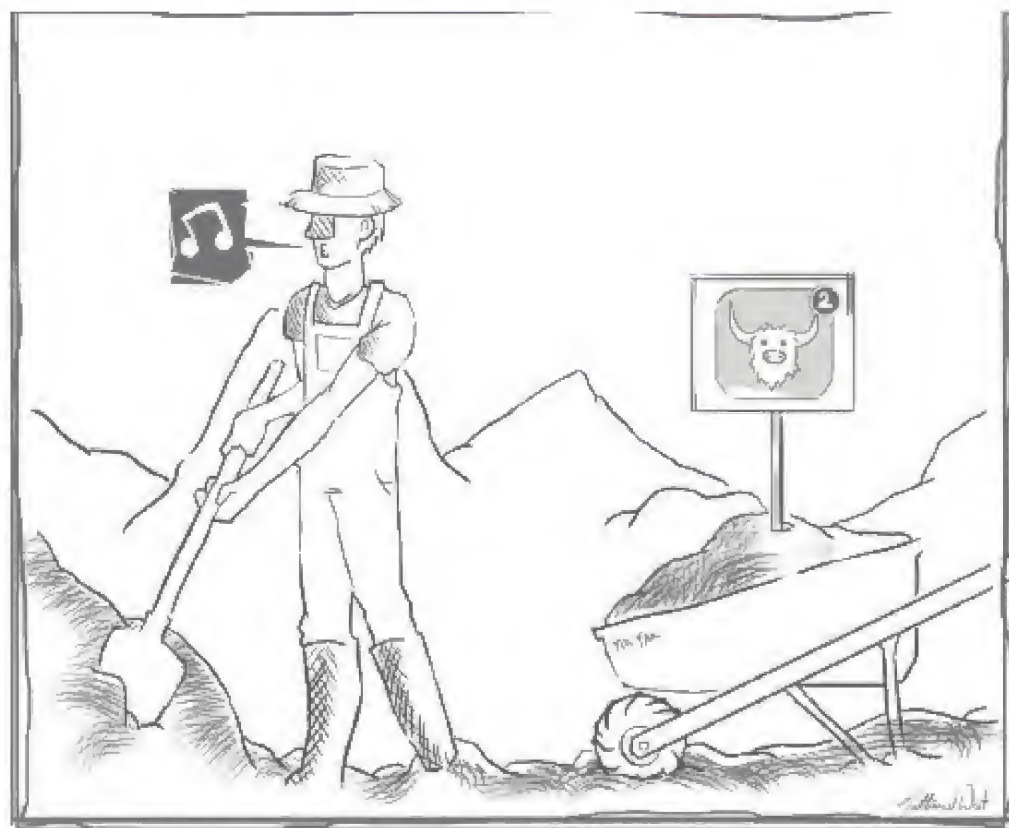
Brittney Burress

Guest Writer

The new social media app called Yik Yak is causing several frustrations on the UTM campus. Yik Yak allows anyone in a 10 mile radius of campus to post anonymously about students, professors, greek organizations, or whatever they chose. Since all of the post are anonymous what gets posted is often very cruel. This app just makes cyber bullying easy.

Yik Yak also has a feature that allows the comments "Yaks" to be liked, which would bring the comment to the "Hot List," or if the yak gets negative votes it gets deleted. This app is similar to twitter in the way that you can't post more than 200 characters and you can scroll through the news feed and like or comment on the posts.

UTM Senior Ag Communications Major Lauren Bennett says, "I think Yik Yak harms our college community as a whole. What was made to be a friendly anonymous app has become a vicious way for people to emotionally hurt men and women at UTM. Whether it's talking badly about organizations or individual



"A lot of new posts today"

Graphic Credit \ Nathaniel West

people, it's an app that should be deleted not only off our phones, but the app itself should be

removed from the app market. Where does this quote end? - M.C.

Most of the comments on the University of Tennessee at Martin's Yik Yak are just

random posts such as "what's going on tonight?" or "what time does the library close?"

However, some of the posts get ugly. Posts like "this girl is a slut" or "he has an STD." If you have ever used the app you know how some of the posts can get. There is no way of knowing whether these comments are true, but the damages they bring to students can haunt them forever.

UTM Senior Animal Science Major, Katie Chadwick says, "I never use the app. I think it's stupid, and nothing but drama."

Many students would agree with this statement. However, UTM students continue to keep the app out of curiosity to see what people post. This is why Yik Yak currently has so many users.



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News

Closing arguments begin in ex-Vandy players' rape trial

Sheila Burke

Associated Press

NASHVILLE — The rape trial of two former Vanderbilt football players began wrapping up Monday with a prosecutor telling jurors that video evidence and photographs taken of the crime would be enough to convict them on most of the charges.

Beyond the video footage and photographs, testimony from several athletes shows the players are guilty, Assistant District Attorney Jan Norman told jurors during closing arguments.

The proceedings capped off a day of dramatic testimony during which one of the former players took the stand and testified that he was so drunk he could not remember what happened.

Former players Brandon Vandenburg and Cory Batey are standing trial on five counts of aggravated rape and two counts of aggravated sexual battery. Two other former players are facing the same charges. Vandenburg additionally faces a charge of unlawful photography and tampering with evidence.

All have pleaded not guilty. Throughout the trial, jurors have seen graphic images

of the alleged sexual assault that police recovered from cellphones and a laptop. Prosecutors said players took pictures of the assault and one even sent videos to his friends as it was happening.

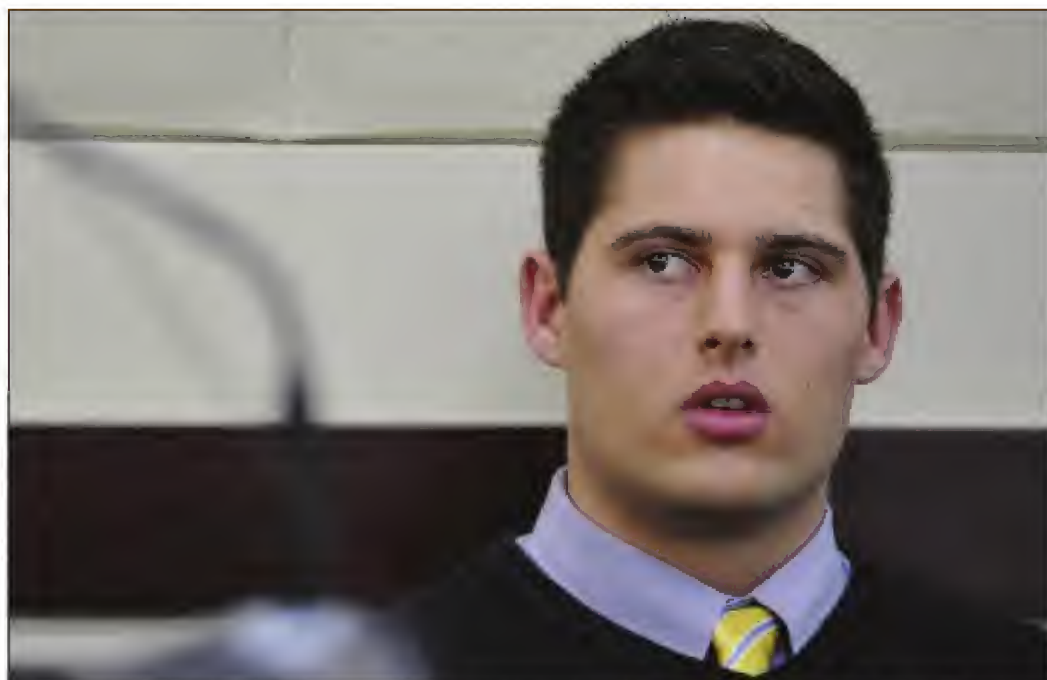
"This is normally the part of the trial where we might say that if we had this on photo or if we had it on video, then it would make the state's job a lot easier," Norman told jurors in her closing. "But we actually have this uncontradicted proof in this case," the prosecutor said of one of the rape charges.

Defense attorneys have claimed that the players were drunk, one of them saying his client had an alcoholic blackout.

"Ladies and gentleman, I submit to you that the only person who was unconscious and didn't know what was going on was (the victim)," Norman told jurors in her closing arguments.

A defense attorney for Batey responded by telling jurors that they would not see video or photographic evidence of his client having sex with the coed.

"The testimony was he was crazy drunk and didn't know what he was doing," Robinson told jurors of Batey. Robinson also blamed a college culture that encouraged binge drinking and sex and said it wasn't just limited to Vanderbilt.



Former Vanderbilt football player Brandon Vandenburg (above) and three other defendants have been charged with five counts of aggravated rape and two counts of aggravated sexual battery. Vandenburg has also been charged with unlawful photography and tampering with evidence. | Photo Credit/Associated Press

The closing arguments came after Batey took the stand and testified that he can't remember the alleged sexual assault that prosecutors say he and three players carried out.

"I was just drunk out of my mind," Batey testified. "This is something I would never do in my right state of mind. I'm just sorry."

Batey told jurors that he was horrified when he saw on his cellphone explicit pictures of a woman he'd never met.

"I didn't know how they got there," Batey said. "I didn't know what happened to the young lady in the pictures. I immediately deleted them."

Batey was a 19-year-old who had just come out of his freshman year when he

and three of his teammates were charged with raping an unconscious student in a dorm in June 2013.

The alleged victim in the case was doubled over and crying in her seat in the courtroom and appeared to be vomiting while Batey was on the stand. She testified last week she had no recollection of being sexually assaulted. The Associated Press generally does not identify alleged victims of sex crimes.

Vandenburg's defense did not get a chance to make a closing argument and is set to do so on Tuesday morning.

Vandenburg is not accused of having sex with the woman or penetrating her in any way. But he has been charged with

aggravated rape because he is accused of encouraging other players to have sex with her.

Vandenburg and the woman had gone out earlier in the evening, and he can be seen on university surveillance video carrying the unconscious woman back to his dorm room.

"He didn't put her in the bed," Norman said of Vandenburg in her closing arguments. "He wasn't trying to care for her. He put her on the floor."

Norman said that over and over Vandenburg encouraged the others to violate the woman. She said the only reason he didn't was because he couldn't perform.

Help save lives; get facts about suicide prevention

Justin Glover

News Co-Editor

Suicide prevention is an important issue that holds great importance for people from all walks of life. Here are some facts about the importance of preventing suicide.

On average, about 33,000 Americans commit suicide each year. As a result, suicide is the eleventh most common cause of death in the United States. Suicide rates among those aged 15 to 24 have tripled since the 1950s, making suicide the third leading cause of death among the demographic.

The Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN) says that while many consider suicide to often result from a single event, in reality the act is usually the result of

an aggregation of many smaller factors over time. It often stems from clinical depression, a problem from which one in five teenagers suffers. Risk factors include the giving away of prized possessions or putting affairs in order, recurring themes of death or depression in conversation or writings, sudden drastic decline or improvement in schoolwork, chronic headaches or fatigue, substance abuse, and taking unnecessary risks, among others.

According to the TSPN, "Any one of these signals alone doesn't necessarily indicate a person is suicidal. However, several signals may because for concern. Signals are especially important if the person has attempted suicide in the past."

The TSPN suggests

that when dealing with a potentially suicidal person, the first and most important step is to talk with and, more importantly, listen to that person. Showing support and caring for the person is another important step, as well as alerting important people in the person's life. Informing the appropriate mental health professional is paramount, as untreated depression is the leading cause of suicide.

Most importantly, do not remain silent about the person's decision to commit suicide.

"Saving a life is more important than keeping a promise," says the TSPN.

If you or someone you know is considering suicide, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

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News

Find out how president's education plan, Tennessee Promise affect UTM

Chance Farmer

News Co-Editor

President Barack Obama delivered the annual State of the Union Address on Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Throughout his speech, President Obama unveiled new proposals concerning middle-class economics, including a new plan to make community college free for any American willing to work for it.

According to the White House's official website, students must attend community college at least part-time, maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA, and graduate on time in order to take advantage of the president's plan.

"Whoever you are, this plan is your chance to graduate ready for the new economy, without a load of debt," said President Obama.

President Obama also explained that this program would be paid by reforming the tax code and closing loopholes that

give big companies and the 'super-rich' tax breaks that are not offered to the middle class.

"We need a tax code that truly helps working Americans trying to get a leg up in the new economy, and we can achieve that together," said President Obama.

The president's plan will have strong opposition in a Republican-controlled Congress. The president called for a bipartisan effort to help make his proposals a reality. How much of his plan that will become a reality is uncertain.

Regardless of whether or not the president's education plan is passed through Congress, UTM students will still feel the effects of the Tennessee Promise. Like the president's plan, the Tennessee Promise offers two free years of community college, however, there are some key differences. The Tennessee Promise is a 'last-dollar' scholarship,

meaning it only covers what isn't paid for by federal Pell grants, the Tennessee Hope Lottery scholarship, or TSAA (Tennessee Student Assistance Award).

Universities and 4-year colleges across the state, including UTM, are already seeing a decline in enrollment due to the Tennessee Promise. Lower enrollment rates mean less tuition going into the system in order to help the institution running, resulting in budget cuts and the raising of tuition for students. In light of this, many have asked what measures the university is taking to remain competitive. The answer is the UT Martin Advantage Initiative.

According to a news release published by the Office of University Relations, the UT Martin Advantage includes introducing a new scholarship, which will be offered to any UTM student who enters their freshman year and continues to meet



President Barack Obama delivers his annual State of the Union address on January 20. | Photo Credit/Associated Press

the requirements of the Tennessee Hope Lottery Scholarship beginning in their sophomore year. The new initiative will take effect beginning in the Fall 2015 semester.

The UT Martin Advantage also includes the launching of a new website designed to show prospective students the advantages of attending a 4-year university and

participating in the full collegiate experience.

"We believe that many students benefit from attending a 4-year university," said Dr. Tom Rakes, Chancellor of UTM. "The UT Martin Advantage Scholarship provides more students with the opportunity to pursue the total collegiate experience."

Airports increase security in response to terror concerns

Emily Stewart

Assistant News Editor

Homeland Security has increased U.S. airport security because of recent concerns over new bomb making instructions released by al Qaeda in Yemen (AQAP).

The new security measures will include additional random checks after passengers pass through security, bag checks, passenger pat-downs and hand swabs for traces of explosives.

UT Martin's Assistant Professor of Sport Management Dr. Dexter Davis often travels for work

and stated that, "I'm thankful for pre-screen. It saves me a lot of hassle. I travel a lot, and the pre-screen is awesome." Some felt that the extra screening is overly cautious. The extra security measures may be a challenge, but when you think about keeping people safe perhaps they are worth it.

The reason behind the sudden heightened security measures is because of "the new issue of AQAP's Inspire magazine, released on December 24, featured instructions on how to build what AQAP called a 'hidden bomb' from easily purchasable materials. It also included

directions on how would-be lone wolves worldwide can evade airport security scanners and sniffer dogs."

The new recipe does not include PETN which is a white powdery explosive that Omar Farouk Abdulmutallab "the underwear bomber" attempted to detonate on Christmas Day in 2009 using an explosive device built by Ibrahim al Asiri, AQAP's master bomb-maker. PETN, the main charge, failed to detonate as the plane approached Detroit. PETN is difficult for extremists to manufacture or acquire in the West.

"U.S. airport security in recent years has focused its greatest screening efforts on 'unknown' travelers. For example, fliers who provide personal information for 'trusted traveler' programs often receive expedited screening at U.S. airports, and at international screening and customs checkpoints. The department contends that airport security officers to focus their greatest efforts on the remaining highest-risk fliers."

Airport security officers have also been known to use profiling when screening individuals, which is one of

Amy Flenning's, Director of International Programs and International Admissions, main concerns.

"I'm all for making sure travel is safe and secure, but I worry that there is some profiling that happens. If that's the case, that disturbs me. Profiling of all the Saudis that we have here. I don't want them unfairly treated when they travel. But, I support more security to make the skies safe," said Flenning.

The increased security does make flying a tiresome process, but like Flenning stated, "tiresome but somewhat necessary."

Flu vaccine not working well; only 23 percent effective

Mike Stobbe

Associated Press

NEW YORK — This year's flu vaccine is doing a pretty crummy job. It's only 23 percent effective, which is one of the worst performances in the last decade, according to a government study released Thursday.

The poor showing is primarily because the vaccine doesn't include the bug that is making most people sick, health officials say. In the last decade, flu vaccines at their best were 50 to 60 percent effective.

"This is an uncommon year," said Dr. Alicia Fry, a flu vaccine expert at the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who was involved in the study.

The findings are not surprising,

though. In early December, CDC officials warned the vaccine probably wouldn't work very well because it isn't well matched to a strain that's been spreading widely.

Each year, the flu vaccine is reformulated, based on experts' best guess at which three or four strains will be the biggest problem. Those decisions are usually made in February, months before the flu season, to give companies that make flu shots and nasal spray vaccine enough time to make enough doses.

But this year's formula didn't include the strain of H3N2 virus that ended up causing about two-thirds of the illnesses this winter. And that strain tends to cause more hospitalizations and deaths, particularly in the elderly, making this a particularly bad winter to have a problem with the flu vaccine.

Indeed, the flu season is shaping up to a bad one. Health officials are comparing it to the nasty flu season two winters ago, and this one may prove to be worse. Hospitalization rates in people 65 and older are higher than they were at the same point in the 2012-2013 season, according to CDC data.

The results from the preliminary study weren't large enough to show how the vaccine is working in each age group, although flu vaccines traditionally don't work as well in elderly people.

The study involved 2,321 people in five states — Michigan, Pennsylvania, Texas, Wisconsin and Washington — who had respiratory illnesses from November to early January. The researchers said vaccinated people had a 23 percent lower chance of winding

up at the doctor with the flu.

The CDC began regularly tracking the effectiveness of the flu vaccine during the 2004-2005 season, but the results for the first few years were from smaller studies and are considered less reliable. Effectiveness has ranged from 47 percent to 60 percent in the last half-dozen years, when studies involved larger numbers of patients.

It's only in those last several years that "we really understand what's really going on" with the flu vaccines, said Dr. Arnold Monto, a University of Michigan flu expert and another author of the study.

CDC officials say people should still get a flu shot this year. Recently, the flu season in the U.S. has peaked in January or February, but people can continue to get sick for months.

And they could get infected by the flu strains that were included in this year's version.

The vaccine's disappointing performance affected the family of a woman who worked on the flu study at the Marshfield Clinic in Wisconsin. Kelly Mathews, of Wisconsin Rapids, said she makes sure her three sons get flu shots each year — especially after they got very sick in 2009, when swine flu was raging and vaccine was scarce.

But her 7-year-old son, Corbyn Lempert, developed a lasting cough and was diagnosed with the flu just before New Year's. Mathews said the flu shot might have at least kept him from becoming really sick.

"It's better to get it," she said.

News



UTM students to work hospitality at Pro Bowl, Super Bowl XLIX

University Relations

Six students from UTM's sport business program will work hospitality events at both the Pro Bowl and Super Bowl at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Ariz. Dexter Davis, assistant professor of sport business, will lead the group. This is Davis' 10th Super Bowl and the second for UT Martin students.

Students will not be in the stands eating popcorn, however. At the Pro Bowl, they will be involved in coordinating pre-game events, fan activities and post-game hospitality. At the Super Bowl, students will likely work with Davis, who helps

manage player appearances at the event. This includes assisting with arrival and departure, coordinating autograph signing venues and escorting players between events. Students will also assist with the post-game event, where visitors who have paid an extra fee are allowed to go onto the field after the trophy has been presented.

The group will leave Jan. 23 and return Feb. 3. During their time in Phoenix, they will also be assisting the local organizing committee prepare for the Super Bowl, as well as meeting with members of the Phoenix Coyotes staff; touring the Salt Lick Fields complex, a spring training facility for the Arizona Diamondbacks and the

Colorado Rockies; taking a trail ride on Camelback Mountain and attending the Phoenix Suns vs. Memphis Grizzlies NBA game Monday after the Super Bowl.

Students interested in participating this year were required to submit a cover letter and resume to Davis, as well as complete a formal interview with him, before being selected. Davis treats the process like a job application because involvement with the NFL opens doors only the NFL can open.

"Anytime you are able to put a brand like the NFL next to your name, it garners attention. With some hard work and a little luck, I will be able to use this experience as a platform

for a long, successful career in the football industry," said Ian McGrew, a senior from Troy.

"The Super Bowl is one of the most influential events of the year, especially when it comes to advertising," said Courtney Caton, a sophomore from Huntingdon. "As a marketing major, I am intrigued by all the behind-the-scenes work that goes into the advertising and production of such a large event. I am most excited about making connections with possible employers about internships or a career."

The other students attending are Ross Landreth, a senior from Selmer; Jamison Matney, a senior from Bon Aqua; Rachel Robison, a senior from

Springville; and Dakota Shanes, a sophomore from Bon Aqua. Caton, Robison and Shanes are marketing majors, while Landreth, Matney and McGrew are sport business majors.

Robison is the only student from this year's team to have also attended last year's Super Bowl with Davis. "The hands-on involvement that I received from last year's Super Bowl was enlightening. I think that going back for a second time I will be able to receive a more in-depth understanding of the event planning side of things," she said. Last year's team worked as customer service staff members during the game.

Local representative proposes state ban on red-light cameras

Amber Sheman
Staff Writer

Tennessee House Representative Andy Holt announced via multiple news and social media outlets his plan to outlaw red light cameras or "speed trap cameras".

On Dec. 30, 2014, Holt posted a multiple paragraph long rant on Facebook stating "Speed and red light cameras are nothing more than a modernized form of speed-trapping. They have very little to do with safety,

and everything to do with municipal greed."

Holt also said in published reports out of Nashville that he is concerned because businesses in his district are complaining that drivers are avoiding their stores because of traffic cameras located in the area.

The businesses that Holt spoke with claim the avoidance is hurting their bottom lines and forcing customers to shop elsewhere in communities that do not have such cameras.

A few days after those statements were made,

the Knoxville Police Department released a report objecting to the statements of Holt.

According to Channel 10 News, Knoxville police took aim against Holt's accusations, writing that accidents at intersections are the most dangerous types of collisions on their Facebook page.

According to the KPD post on Facebook, the City of Knoxville stated, "The red light camera enforcement program has been, and continues to be, the most effective habit-

changing effort we have seen in traffic safety."

A spokesman for the KPD, Darrell Debusk, made a more detailed statement.

"We have seen no evidence whatsoever that the cameras are used only to make money from fines. We are concerned that if you take this program away, you're going to increase the number of crashes, you're going to increase the number of significant injuries to individuals and you're going to increase the number of fatalities we see in the city of Knoxville,"

DeBusk said.

Regardless of the criticism, Holt continues his plan for the bill. The General Assembly is currently in special session to debate Governor Haslam's Insure Tennessee, so Holt's bill won't be brought up for another month or so.

Once it ends, however, Holt will be able to start the legislative process of getting the Law passed. In the meantime, Holt keeps those interested in the topic informed through Facebook.

Have a Heart.....Give Blood this Valentine's!!



UTM University Center

Tuesday & Wednesday, Feb. 3 & 4

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All donors receive a T-shirt

Arts & Entertainment

Audiences reflect on dreams of Dr. King in *Selma*

Bariana Woods

Assistant A&E Editor

Since its release on Jan. 9, critics have been raving over the movie *Selma*.

The movie is about the journey of Martin Luther King Jr. and his followers as they march from Selma, Alabama, to Montgomery, Alabama. The march happened during the time when President Lyndon Johnson was signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and is one of the most significant victories for the Civil Rights Movement.

"The movie was just great. There were times I wanted to cry. There were times I laughed and there were times I felt proud because we have come so far as a nation, and especially as African Americans," said freshman Biology major Alexis Smith.

The film stars David Oyelowo, who plays Martin Luther King Jr., and other big-name stars: Oprah Winfrey, Carmen Ejogo, Tom Wilkinson and Tim Roth.

According to Rotten Tomatoes, *Selma* has brought in over \$26.4 million in the two weeks it has been out and the number continues to increase daily.

Junior Health and Human Performance major Jada Crawford called *Selma* inspiring.

"It showed people to never give up and fight for what's right. It encourages you



Photo credit/ www.Selmamovie.com

to keep fighting until the battle is won. I loved the movie and being able to just see what many African Americans had to go through for us to get equal rights," said Crawford.

Many of the viewers have encouraged

others of all races to go out and see this movie but to be aware of some of the violent content and racial slurs.

"It has a lot of moments that are intense in the movie but those moments made me really appreciative of the life

we as African Americans have now," said junior Psychology major Kache Brooks.

For more information on *Selma*, you can visit the Rotten Tomatoes website or check the movie out for yourself at your local theater now.



Photo Credit/ www.JustJared.com

Rihanna collaborates with Sir Paul, Kanye for new acoustic sound on single

Jeremy Smith

A&E Editor

Rihanna surprised her fans this past weekend by the release of the single, *FourFiveSeconds* featuring vocals by Kanye West and Sir Paul McCartney on the acoustic guitar.

Rihanna released the news of the single Saturday via her Twitter account with the post "First glimpse at my new music."

The single isn't the first time the Island Princess has teamed with pop culture's infamous Mr. West, with past chart toppers like *Run This Town* and *All of the Lights*.

This, however, is the first collaboration between the starlet and the prestigious McCartney, who was heard alongside West earlier this year on the single "Only One," a song for West's daughter, North West.

The track illustrates Rihanna's frustrations with Mondays and the hook shows how close she is to having a conniption.

Kanye West's feature on the track consist of more vocals than rapping while Sir Paul strums an unplugged guitar in the background, along with the sounds of the organ and a few call and response vocals.

The collaboration has a classic

acoustic sound that Rihanna fans will enjoy. The piece focuses purely on Rihanna's voice, implying that the singer wants the audience to listen to the words and feel the meaning.

Rihanna and Kanye West both have released new music off their upcoming 2015 albums but no official titles or date have been released either as of now. Fans are wondering what's up next for each individual in the trio for rest of 2015 because it has only been one month into the year and the music industry is already in a buzz.

Grammy-nominated gospel writer returns to UTM on Thursdays

Lyndsey Hayslett

Managing Editor

UT Martin will host a unique weekly gathering beginning next month.

Pastor Del Lawrence, better known as simply Mr. Del, will moderate these bible-studiesque meetings each Thursday night for the entire month of February.

Mr. Del is a gospel rapper from Memphis, Tennessee. He was formerly a member of the Oscar award winning rap group Three 6 Mafia. Mr. Del received Christ fifteen years ago and has made it his mission to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ instead of the message of sin and damnation. His success as a gospel artist easily rivals that of his as a mainstream rapper.

The weekly UT Martin classes, which will be held in the UC, will be based on his book, *Soul Ties: How to Detox from Toxic Relationships*.

"Soul Ties is a book about relationships and how to get through them. ...When relationships go bad, we don't seek help for our wounds. As a result of all of these bad relationships, you end up getting to a point where your character

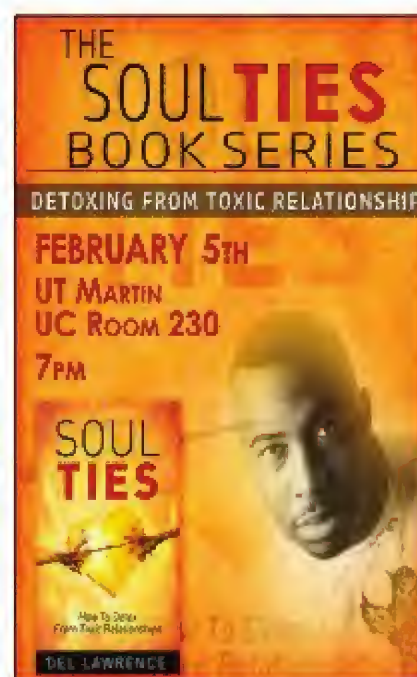


Photo Credit/ Mr.Del

and personality change. So what *Soul Ties* does is...[teach] us how to detox the spiritual way," Lawrence says.

Mr. Del would like to encourage all students to come out. The classes will be held every Thursday night during the month of February in room 230 in the UC. They will begin at 7 p.m.

In the end, Mr. Del says, his message is a simple one.

"Christ can change your life for the better. Let [Christ] into your heart. It will be the best decision you ever made."

Sports

Skyhawk men rally to defeat SEMO 70-53

Jared Peckenpaugh

Sports Editor

The UTM Skyhawks picked up another big Ohio Valley Conference win over the Southeast Missouri Redhawks to improve to 4-2 in conference play.

The 70-53 win was the first win over SEMO in the Elam Center since 2011.

"I thought it was a huge win for us against a good SEMO team," said UTM head coach Heath Schroyer. "I thought our defense in the second half was as good of a defensive half that we had all year."

SEMO, playing without their leading scorer Jarekious Bradley, fought with UTM, swapping the lead several times. It wasn't until late in the first half when the Skyhawks went on a few short runs to give them a 40-32 lead at halftime.

UTM extended their lead to 10 in the second half



Photo Credit/Sports Information

before a 9-0 run trimmed the lead to one midway through the half. From there, the

Skyhawks went on a 23-7 run and cruised to an easy win, 70-53 over the Redhawks.

The Skyhawks had four players finish with double-digit points: Alex Anderson

(13), Marshun Newell (12), Javier Martinecz (17) and Deville Smith who led the Skyhawks with 18 points.

"We're not a one trick pony, we don't have one good player, we have a basketball team," said Schroyer. "It's like I told our guys before the game and leading up to this game for the last two days, we're not going to beat SEMO playing hero basketball, we're going to do it as a team."

Southeast Missouri was led by Isiah Jones, who had 21 points, and Antonius Cleveland, who had 11.

UTM shot 49 percent from the field and 54 percent from three point range while SEMO shot 43 percent from the field, 36 percent from three and only 2-9 from the free-throw line.

The Skyhawks' next game is Thursday, Jan. 29, when they host Eastern Illinois. Tipoff between the Panthers and the Skyhawks is scheduled for 6:30 p.m.



Photo Credit/Sports Information

Skyhawks pluck SEMO 96-55

Jared Peckenpaugh

Sports Editor

For head coach Kevin McMillan, it was another day at the office as the UT Martin Skyhawks cruise to another conference win over the Southeast Missouri State Redhawks, 96-55.

The Skyhawks improved to 7-0 in Ohio Valley Conference play on a night where they unveiled the banner for last season's 15-1 OVC Championship team.

Despite the first 14 seconds where it was a 0-0 tie, the Skyhawks took control of the game for the final 39:45. Statistically, the Skyhawks dominated the Redhawks, winning the rebound battle

45-20 and the assists battle 21-12 in their 41 point win.

"When you make shots, it hides a lot of things that didn't go well," said McMillan. "We found people for good open shots for a lot of the ballgame, we had a lot of assists...again getting better and I thought the effort was good."

The Skyhawks had five players finish with double-digit points, led by Ashia Jones, who recorded her fifth 30+ point outing with 30 points. Other players who finished with double digit points were Chelsea Roberts (10), Katie Schubert (11), Karisma Tyson (11) and Tiara Caldwell, who recorded a double-double with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

"That's this team," said

McMillan. "We're going to need production from everybody like that."

Erin Bollmann led all Southeast Missouri shooters with 20 points and also tallied five rebounds.

Overall, UTM shot consistently throughout the game, hitting 60 percent from the field and 56 percent from 3-point range. SEMO struggled shooting the ball, hitting 45 percent from the field and 29 percent from three.

UTM will play on the road their next three games, beginning Wednesday, Jan. 28 when they travel to Tennessee State. Tipoff between the Skyhawks and the Tigers is scheduled for 7 p.m.

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

Men's Basketball

6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29 – Eastern Illinois
7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31 – at Murray State
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5 – at Austin Peay
6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7 – SIU Edwardsville

Women's Basketball

6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28 – at Tennessee State
5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31 – at Murray State
7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4 – at Austin Peay
4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7 – SIU Edwardsville

Equestrian

10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 30 – Georgia
10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 31 – Kansas State

Softball

Southern Louisiana Tournament at Hammond, Louisiana

3:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6 – Omaha
5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6 – UT Arlington
12:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7 – Alcorn State
3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7 – Southeast Louisiana
10 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 8 – Nicholls State

Women's Tennis

6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6 – at Lipscomb
10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 7 – at Middle Tennessee
9 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 8 – at East Tennessee State

Rifle

OVC Championship (Jacksonville, Alabama)
Friday, Feb. 6 – Sunday, Feb. 8